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CLASSIFICATION		SECRET CONTROL / US OFFICIALS	
COUNTRY	Soviet Zone of Germany		REPORT
TOPIC	Military Information from Rathenow		25X1
EVALUATION		25X1	PLACE OBTAINED
DATE OF CONTENT		25X1	
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	19 July 1950
REFERENCES			25X1
PAGES	3	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			

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1. The gate of the Rathenow (N 53/Z 15) barracks installation on the road to  
Senlin was guarded by an officer with submachine gun on 31 May 1950.  
Another officer checked the entering and leaving motor vehicles. Officer  
patrols were seen on the road along the barracks area. Tents and dug-in  
trucks camouflaged with nets were seen between the road and the installa-  
tion. Truck [ ] was seen.
2. The shed roofs in the barracks area, which formerly sheltered guns, now  
sheltered trucks. These trucks and others standing nearby were estimated  
at about 50. Trucks [ ]  
were seen. (1)
3. An AA gun was still emplaced in the area west of the drill ground.
4. Passenger cars [ ]  
occupied by field officers, passed through the barracks gate while it was  
guarded by officers. (1)
5. [ ]

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6.

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7. Eighteen biplanes were seen on the meadows southeast of the main railroad station on Wolzen Lake from 30 May to 1 June 1950. The air force personnel, about 200 to 250, were quartered in the swimming association clubhouse nearby. (3)

8. Motor vehicles, driven by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were shuttling between the clubhouse and the barracks near the Rathenow North railroad station, hauling air force personnel, ration supplies and billeting equipment.

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9. A tent camp with troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and tank insignia was located in the woods northeast of the railroad station.

10. Piles of construction material, such as boards and beams, and preparations for construction work, such as excavations, were observed in the area of the Pionier Kaserne in the northern sector of Rathenow on 1 June 1950.

11. With the exception of firemen, no German workers were allowed to enter the billeting area after 23 May 1950. Groups of 20 to 30 unarmed soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were frequently seen marching to and from the barracks and the railroad station. A fireman said that 900 soldiers were quartered in the three buildings of the installation on 1 June 1950.

12. Combat maneuvers and training with radio sets and telephones were observed in Semliner Heide on 1 June 1950. (4)

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(1) Comments.

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(2) General Zhigarev is presumably Yosef Semenovitch Zhigarev, who was promoted

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to the rank of major general, artillery, in July 1945 and who was identified as CO of the 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig in September 1954. It is possible that he is now CG of the 6th Arty Div in Rathenow [redacted]

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[redacted] Major General, Arty, A.M. Manila as CG of the 30th Gds Gun Arty Brig. [redacted]

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[redacted] signal unit or signal depot in Rathenow [redacted]

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[redacted] belong to artillery components of the IV Arty Corps. [redacted]

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[redacted] a component unit of the 25th Tank Div.

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- (3) This information indicates a change in the occupation of Rathenow since the end of May 1950. There were no AF troops stationed in that area prior to that date. The biplanes may belong to a courier squadron attached for training purposes to a high unit headquarters, possible the HQ IV Arty Corps or the Hq 6th Arty Div.

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- (4) Elements of the IV Arty Corps, including the Corps headquarters, the Hq 6th Arty Div and components of a light artillery or mortar brigade, possibly the 65th; a gun artillery brigade, possibly the 10th; the 18th How Arty Brig; and a rocket launcher brigade, possibly the 25th, all of which have so far been assumed to be stationed in Rathenow. These units, except for rear details, went to Altengrabow for firing practice in April 1950. About 300 soldiers, allegedly belonging to rear details at billets in Premnitz, near the city, arrived at the Rathenow Kraftfahrer Kaserne in mid-May 1950. It was said that troops who remained in Rathenow would be rotated with those who were to return from Altengrabow on 30 May 1950. [redacted] Shipments of troops observed on and after 23 May 1950 indicate such a rotation.

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